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The legal arguments are luminous and impressive as a rule ; and many would consider the author's " Constitutional Government Imperilled " as better law, if not better politics, than the Insular Cases. Sometimes, however, his enthusiasm is stronger than his argument. This appears particularly in his effort to prove that sovereignty in this country resides with " the aggregate people, composed of all who hold the franchise in the several states." To make such an assertion, with no better proof than that " we the people of the United States " established the Constitution, is preposterous. The legal sovereign, the sovereign organized in the Constitution, is the amending power. Who the ultimate sovereign is we can only guess. It may be the aggregate of voters ; it may be the " money power " ; it may come to be the army.

E. M. SAIT.

The Spirit of Youth and the City Streets. By JANE ADDAMS.
New York, The Macmillan Company, 1909.—162 pp.

Miss Addams's recent book continues the note of realism suffused with imagination which characterizes all her utterances, whether oral or written. To Miss Addams, things as they are exist in the light of what they may be. What lies implicit in the ordinary is the centre of her attention. This last book is her most lucid and poetical expression. " The perpetual springs of life's self-renewals," which the author avers to be the revelation of the poets, are here indicated in their obscurer, humbler and more danger-fraught channels.

That our industrial civilization, with its emphasis on profit, has practically ceased to regard the provision of recreation as a public function is clearly indicated in the first chapter, " Youth in the City." Speaking of the entrance of girls into industrial life, away from the protection of the home, this trenchant sentence sums up the situation : " Society cares more for the products they manufacture than for their immemorial ability to reaffirm the charm of existence." The folly of leaving the furnishing of recreation to commercial enterprise is made evident. In vivid words is painted for us the debasement which awaits the period of idealism that accompanies maturity—idealism that might mean a great impetus towards all forms of social, artistic and personal development, if only adequate provision were made for recreational facilities in which the life of the young might find joyful and normal expression. The second chapter, entitled " Wrecked Foundations," notes the impracticability of keeping up old-world habits of chaperonage in American cities and shows that there is " but one path open to us in

America. That path implies freedom for the young people, made safe only through their own self-control. This, in turn, must be based upon knowledge and habits of clean companionship." In the next chapter, "The Quest for Adventure," the author insists both upon the natural right of the young to excitement and upon our folly in not providing such forms of pleasure and recreation as may satisfy this natural desire and at the same time stir the imagination. A higher note would meet with quite as ready a response, and this must be struck. "The House of Dreams" is a chapter devoted to the consideration of the powerful cultural influence of the theatre. The vulgarity of many of the cheap theatres, the emphasis placed on the cruder sex-aspect of life and a false estimate of values too often make of the theatre a coarsening influence instead of a potent educational force. In this chapter Miss Addams writes suggestively of the desirability of festivals, of the newly aroused understanding of the educational value of play, of the introduction of recreation centres into the schools, of the establishment of the "Field Houses" in the Chicago parks for recreational self-expression and of the revival of folk-dances. Both of these chapters are rich in illustration. The necessity of correlating education and industry in order to vitalize the former and humanize the latter is also made clear by showing the result of the lack of such correlation. The final chapter is a plea for so directing "this splendid store of youthful ardor and creative enthusiasm" as to "make it operative upon the life of the city." Speaking of that large mass of young people in the cities who are "breaking their hearts because the social reform is so long delayed," Miss Addams writes :

To permit these young people to separate themselves from the contemporaneous efforts for ameliorating society and to turn their vague hopes solely toward an ideal commonwealth of the future, is to withdraw from an experimental self-government founded in enthusiasm the very stores of enthusiasm which are needed to sustain it. . . .

The book as a whole is both an important psychological study and an ardent appeal for public provision of decent recreation. A poem is the best kind of a tract.

MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH.